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U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C. 20535

July 22, 2016

MR. JOHN GREENEWALD JR.  
[REDACTED]

FOIPA Request No.: 1349490-000  
Subject: ZIMMERMAN, JOHN

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

In response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted to the FBI, enclosed are processed documents responsive to your request.

Material consisting of six (6) pages has been reviewed pursuant to Title 5, U.S. Code § 552, and this material is being released to you in its entirety with no excisions being made by the FBI.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV (2010)). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

For questions regarding our determinations, visit the [www.fbi.gov/foia](http://www.fbi.gov/foia) website under "Contact Us." The FOIPA Request number listed above has been assigned to your request. Please use this number in all correspondence concerning your request. Your patience is appreciated.

You may file an appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, Suite 11050, 1425 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIAonline portal by creating an account on the following web site: <https://foiaonline.regulations.gov/foia/action/public/home>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within sixty (60) days from the date of this letter in order to be considered timely. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

Sincerely,

David M. Hardy  
Section Chief,  
Record/Information  
Dissemination Section  
Records Management Division

Enclosure

In response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, enclosed is a processed copy of the FBI Headquarters file 9-HQ-31741.

A record (New York Field Office file 9-NY-2419), which may be responsive to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, was destroyed in November, 1974. Since this material could not be reviewed, it is not known if it was responsive to your request. Record retention and disposal is carried out under the supervision of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), Title 44, United States Code, Section 3301 and Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter 12, Sub-chapter B, Part 1228. The FBI Records Retention Plan and Disposition Schedules have been approved by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia and are monitored by NARA.

This material is being provided to you at no charge.

F B I

Date: 2/14/57

Transmit the following message via AIRTEL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (9-2419)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka K.E.M.;  
JOHN NEBEL, aka Longjohn, VICTIM  
EXTORTION

Victim, an announcer for radio station WOR, has an interview type program from 1:00 AM until 5:30 AM, daily. On this program, victim interviews people who have ideas and stories concerning flying saucers, Theosophy, Hypnotism and related subjects.

Victim stated he received numerous letters from an individual who signed letters K.E.M. Letters did not contain threats. Victim added he read several of these letters on his program, mentioning the writer of the letters as K.E.M. One of the letters received by the victim from K.E.M. was designated by its writer as a message to be read by the victim to his radio audience. Victim stated he never read this message over the air, and stated he has destroyed the letter.

The victim stated that while in his New York Studio, he received a telephone call from an individual from New Jersey who identified himself as K.E.M. and stated if the message was not read, the victim would be killed. The victim was unable to give the exact date of the call, but stated it was between February 4 and 8, 1957 at 12:30 AM. He stated he could not be sure call came from New Jersey, but believes the switchboard operator stated it was a New Jersey call.

(3) - Bureau  
1 - New York (9-2419)

CSH:ch  
(5)

Mr. Rosen

61 FEB 20 1957

Approved: *[Signature]*

Special Agent in Charge

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Sent

31741

M

Per

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

3 FEB 15 1957

RECORDED-16

EX-102

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following message via \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

NY 9-2419

Facts were presented to AUSA Silvio J. Mollo, SDNY who declined prosecution on grounds this call undoubtedly crank call brought on by subject's unusual type radio program. Report Follows.

KELLY

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31741

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

|   |                                     |  |   |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| REPORTING OFFICE<br><b>NEW YORK</b>   | OFFICE OF ORIGIN<br><b>NEW YORK</b> | DATE<br><b>3/4/57</b>                            | INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD<br><b>2/11-15, 19/57</b> |
| TITLE OF CASE<br><br><b>CHANGED<br/>UNKNOWN SUBJECT, wa: K.E.M.<br/>JOHN ZIMMERMAN NEBEL, aka<br/>"Longjohn" - VICTIM</b> |                                     | REPORT MADE BY<br><b>CHARLES S. HARDING, Jr.</b> | TYPED BY<br><b>rd</b>                         |
|   |                                     | CHARACTER OF CASE<br><br><b>EXTORTION</b>        |   |

**SYNOPSIS:**

Victim, radio announcer, received letter from unknown subject not containing threat. Stated received telephone call from unknown subject from N.J., threatening life. Victim could not ascertain if call definitely made from N.J. AUSA SILVIO J. MOLLO, SDNY, declined prosecution stating call evidently crank call.

- C -

**DETAILS:**

Title has been changed to reflect victims full name of JOHN ZIMMERMAN NEBEL, as obtained during interview on February 15, 1957.

This investigation is predicated upon receipt of information from JOHN ZIMMERMAN NEBEL, victim, on February 11, 1957. Mr. NEBEL furnished a letter postmarked Denville, New Jersey, February 8, 1957, to SA JAMES L. MC CARTHY. The letter which was dated 13, February, 1957, and signed K.E.M.,

|   |                            |                              |                                  |
|---|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| APPROVED<br><i>[Signature]</i>  | SPECIAL AGENT<br>IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW |                                  |
| COPIES MADE:<br><br>① - Bureau<br>1 - Newark (Info)<br>1 - USA, SDNY<br>1 - New York (9-2419) |                            | 9-31741-2                    | SE 41<br>RECORDED - 64<br>EX-116 |

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NY 9-2419

contained a criticism of victim's radio program but did not contain a threat. Victim stated that he is an announcer for radio station WOR, New York, and has an interview type program, from 1A.M. until 5:30 A.M. daily. On this program, victim interviews people who have ideas and stories concerning flying saucers, theosophy, hypnotism and related subjects. The victim stated that he received three or four telephone calls from New Jersey, during which time a person identifying himself as K.E.M. threatened his life.

On February 14, 1957, the victim was re-interviewed by SAS JOHN J. MC ARDLE and CHARLES S. HARDING, Jr. He stated that he receives about 4,000 pieces of mail per week, as a result of his radio program. Because of the off beat nature of the program, he received many crank letters. Victim added that several months ago, he began receiving letters with postmarks of different communities in New Jersey, from an individual identifying himself as K.E.M. The victim read some of these letters to his radio audience identifying the writer of the letters as K.E.M. One of the letters received by the victim from K.E.M. was designated by its writer as a message to be read by the victim to his radio audience. Victim stated that he never read this message over the air and has destroyed the letter.

The victim further stated that sometime between February 4 and 8, 1957, at approximately 12:30 A.M. while in his studio, he received a telephone call from a man in New Jersey who identified himself as K.E.M. This man stated that if the message was not read, the victim would be killed. The victim stated he could not be certain the caller was in New Jersey but believes the switchboard operator for the station WOR stated it was a New Jersey call. The victim added that he received one other call from an individual identifying himself as K.E.M., but the caller did not make any threat. The victim advised he was not apprehensive about his own safety but was informed that the FBI could not offer him protection, inasmuch as the protection he desired must be secured from the local police.

The facts of this case were presented to Assistant United States Attorney, Southern District



NY 9-2419

of New York, by SA CHARLES S. HARDING, Jr., on February 14, 1957. Mr. MOLLO declined prosecution on the case, stating that this call was undoubtedly a crank call brought on by victim's unusual type radio program.

No further investigation contemplated by the New York Office.

The following description of the victim was obtained through observation and interrogation:

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Name            | JOHN ZIMMERMAN NEBEL, aka<br>"Longjohn"  |
| Race            | White  |
| Sex             | Male   |
| Born            | June 11, 1911, Chicago, Illinois   |
| Residence       | Route 46, Parsippany, New Jersey,<br>and Woodstock Towers, Tudor<br>Village, East 42nd Street, New<br>York City. |
| Occupation      | Radio announcer  |
| Height          | 6' 4"  |
| Weight          | 175  |
| Hair            | Blonde, graying  |
| Eyes            | Blue   |
| Characteristics | Wears black horn rimmed glasses  |

- C -



NY 9-2419

ADMINISTRATIVE

One copy of this report has been designated for the Newark Office for information purposes due to victim's residence in that area, and the fact unknown subject evidently lives in that area.

REFERENCE: NY airtel to Bureau, 2/14/57.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

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